

Staff Report

UPDATE ON HIGH SPEED RAIL - DISCUSSION REGARDING AD HOC COMMITTEE

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary

Staff is seeking Council discussion and confirmation on formulating an Ad-Hoc Committee to assist in research & outreach efforts, provide volunteer support, and address HSR issues for City staff and the City Council.

Background/Discussion

The City Council reviewed the Ad-Hoc Committee concept at their June 29, 2010 meeting. As discussed previously, an on-going effort will be required to review and assess HSR documents, studies and issues throughout the life of this project. As the project progresses, community input and policy direction from the City Council will be needed. A Draft Mission Statement/Scope of Work commensurate with establishing an Ad-Hoc Committee, and a Draft List of Stakeholders is provided as part of this report – see Attachment A.

General Plan/Vision Statement

Review of this matter furthers the City's Vision Statement(s) as follows:

Distinctive Community Character

- We get involved in town matters because we care about living here.
- Our strong sense of community and enjoyment of the town's assets and activities deepen as we become better informed and connected.

Fiscal Impact

The City Council previously authorized up to \$10k in funding towards the HSR project. A significant portion of these funds have been allocated (staff/resource commitments). Staff continually seeks direction as to conferral of additional funds towards this effort.

Public Contact

Posting of City Council agenda.

Recommendation

Staff is seeking Council direction and confirmation on formulating an Ad-Hoc Committee to assess & develop responses to HSR issues, confirm Council policy direction, and represent Belmont interests for this project.

Alternatives

- 1. Discuss options for creating an Ad-Hoc or Subcommittee.
- 2. Direct staff to return with additional information.
- 3. Continue the review of this matter.
- 4. Take no action.

Attachments

A. Draft Mission Statement/Scope of Work – Ad-Hoc Committee & Draft Stakeholder List

Respectfully submitted,

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Acting City Manager

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ATTACHMENT A

Draft Proposal on formulation of a Belmont High Speed Rail Ad Hoc Committee

Proposed Mission Statement/Scope of Work:

- Keep City Council informed on HSR by providing information, research, and timely updates on events, decisions and publications affecting Belmont. Prepare concise and understandable summaries of such items for public presentation at City Council meetings.
- Attend Peninsula Cities Consortium meetings and provide regular reports to City Council on the activities and outcomes of the PCC.
- Work with City staff to create and update web access (via Belmont.Gov) to relevant HSR and PCC publications, City staff reports and official documents related to HSR.
- Formulate and monitor a list of issues and concerns affecting Belmont.
- Inform Belmont residents of the background, scope, and progress of the HSR project and its impacts on Belmont, via community meetings, publications, announcements, and any other vehicle approved by Council.
- Maintain an open communication channel with Stakeholders (attached list) by keeping them informed of progress and events, and soliciting input of concerns and ideas.

Proposed Committee Structure:

12 members to be selected by the City Council from the following groups:

- 1 Planning and Development Department staff
- 1 Public Works Department staff
- 1 Planning Commissioner
- 1 Finance Commissioner
- 1 Parks & Recreation Commissioner
- 1 Green Advisory Committee Member
- 2 Representatives from the business community (Chamber of Commerce)
- 2 Neighborhood Association Members (At Least 1 from Sterling Downs or Homeview Association)
- 2 Citizens at Large

DRAFT BELMONT HIGH SPEED RAIL STAKEHOLDERS LIST - 7/27/10

CITY OF BELMONT

City Council

Planning Commission

Parks & Recreation Commission

Police Department

Fire Department

Community Development Department

Public Works Department

Mid Peninsula Water District

Emergency Services

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

Antique Forest Homeowners Association

Belmont Heights Civic Improvement Association

Belmont Woods Homeowners Association

Central Neighborhood Association

Cipriani Neighborhood Association

Farallon Homeowner Association

Homeview Neighborhood Association

McDougal Neighborhood Association

Montcarle Homeowners Association

Plateau-Skymont Neighborhood Association

Sterling Downs Neighborhood Association

Sterling Point Homeowners Association

The Knolls of Belmont

Tudor Village Homeowners Association

Western Hills Neighborhood Association

BELMONT REDWOOD SHORES SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ralston Middle School

Central Elementary School

Nesbit Elementary School

SEQUOIA UNIFIED HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Carlmont High School

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL BUSINESSES & SCHOOLS

Businesses (list of every business on El Camino, Old County, Ralston, Village, and connectors)

Belmont Chamber of Commerce

Charles Armstrong School

Notre Dame High School

NDNU University

Notre Dame Elementary School

IHM School

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Belmont Open Space Trust

Sports Groups

Peninsula Cities Consortium (PCC)